Abstract

The study on "The Opinions and Needs of the Elderly on Computer Study: A Case Study of Elderly Club Members, Bangkhuntian District, Bangkok Metropolis.", aims to study opinions and needs and recommendations on computer study. As the descriptive research, the samples were 289 elderly residing in Bangkhuntian District. Questionnaire were used as a study tools. The data was analyzed by SPSS and the statistics included percentage, mean, standard deviation, t- test and one-way ANOVA at the significant level 0.05. The study results are summarized as follows:

Most samples were female, age 60-64 years, married, graduated elementary schools, unemployment, had income less than 1,000 baht and lived with children. The samples' opinions on learning principle of the elderly, benefit of computer usage and supporting factor for computer study were at high level. In their opinions, the elderly had show their capability of lifelong learning; computer was a technology learning tool and a channel to access information world, as well as a supporting factor for computer study. In addition, the samples' needs on computer instructors, places and curriculums were at high level. In their opinions, instructors with knowledge, understanding and patience were required and such characteristics supported their study. Study places at home and in community enhanced computer study; simple curriculums also supported the elderly' computer study.

The recommendations from the study are that, at the policy level, the management should integrate and set a policy in enhancing the elderly' computer study at the first priority; at the operational level, the elderly' use of computer should be enhanced, monitored and evaluated consistently to maximize their benefit. For further studies, samples should cover other elderly clubs in other districts. Researches should be developed continuously; studying results and use of computer should be monitored and evaluated to ensure maximum benefit.